

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A method of forming an SDTI content package file from an SDTI signal, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an SDTI signal, the SDTI signal including ~~an SDTI Content Package having~~ a System Item and one or more of a Picture Item, an Audio Item and an Auxiliary Item, the System, and the one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items each comprising a start code, a word count indicating the number of bytes of data of the Item, one or more Element data blocks, and an Item header, preceding element data block, indicating the number of element data blocks in the item, and an end code;

reading the SDTI signal into a buffer;

detecting the start code and the end code for each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item;

removing the detected start and end codes identifying the Item type;

inserting a Label in place of the start code, the label having a predetermined number of bytes, at least one byte identifying the Item, and

providing in the System item metadata relating to the one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items in the content package.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The method of forming a signal according to claim 13, wherein the Label has a predetermined fixed format except for said byte identifying the Item.

Claim 15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The method of forming a file for storage in a computer system, comprising concatenating a plurality of Content Packages, each Content Package being formed by the method of claim 13.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 16, wherein each Content Package includes one video frame.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 17 wherein the frames are compressed video frames.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method of transferring video data within a computer network, comprising: forming a file containing the video data by the method of claim 17; and transferring the file.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for forming an SDTI content package from an SDTI signal, comprising:

a format converter including a controller and a buffer,

wherein the controller is configured to,

receive at a first input an SDTI signal ~~comprising an SDTI Content Package~~

having a System Item and one or more of a Picture Item, an Audio Item and an

Auxiliary Item, the System, and one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary

Items each including a start code, a word count indicating the number of bytes of data

of the Item, one or more Element data blocks, and an Item header, preceding the

element data block, and indicating the number of element data blocks in the Item, and an end code,

read the SDTI signal into a buffer,

detect the start code and the end code for each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item,

remove the detected start and end codes, and

insert a Label in place of the start code, the Label having a predetermined number of bytes and at least one byte identifying the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item, wherein the System item includes metadata relating to the one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items in the content package.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising a signal source for producing the SDTI signal.

Claim 22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising a computer system having a storage for storing files, said format converter being an interface between said signal source for producing the SDTI signal and the computer system.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the computer system comprises a network of file stores linked by a file transfer system.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A method of forming an SDTI signal from an SDTI content package file, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the SDTI content package file, the SDTI content package file ~~including a Content Package~~ having at least a System Item and one or more of a Picture Item, an Audio Item and an Auxiliary Item, the System, and the one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items each comprises a Label having a predetermined number of bytes and at least one byte identifying the Item, a word count indicating the number of bytes of data of the Item, one or more Element data blocks, and having an Item header, preceding the element data block, indicating the number of element data blocks in the Item;

reading the SDTI signal into a buffer;

detecting the Label of each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item;

removing the detected Label of each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item;

inserting a start code and an Item type word in place of the detected Label for each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item; and

inserting an end code after each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item to thereby produce an SDTI signal, wherein the System Item includes metadata relating to the one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items in the content package.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A format converter for converting an SDTI signal into an SDTI content package file, the format converter comprising:

a controller configured to,

receive an SDTI signal including at least a System Item and one or more of a Picture Item, an Audio Item and an Auxiliary Item, the System, and the one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items each comprises a start code, a word count indicating the number of bytes of data of the Item, one or more Element data blocks, an Item header, preceding the element data block, indicating the number of element data blocks in the item, and an end code;

read the SDTI signal into a buffer,

detect the start code and the end code for each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item,

remove the detected start and end codes, and

insert, for each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item, a Label in place of the start code, the Label having a predetermined number of bytes and at least one byte identifying the Item, wherein the System Item includes metadata relating to the one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items in the content package.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The format converter according to claim 26, further comprising:

a multiplexer having first and second inputs and an output, a first store for storing the Label coupled to the first input, the buffer configured to store the SDTI signal being coupled to the second input,

wherein the controller is configured to read the Label out of the first store for supply to the first input followed by reading the word count and the data representing the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item out of the buffer for supply to the second input of the multiplexer,

and the controller is configured to combine the Label from the first data store with the data representing the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item from the buffer.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A format converter for converting an SDTI content package file into an SDTI signal, the format converter comprising:

a controller and a storage buffer,

the controller configured to,

receive a signal representing an SDTI a Content Package having at least a System Item and one or more of a Picture Item, an Audio Item and an Auxiliary Item, the System, and one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items each comprising a Label having a predetermined number of bytes and at least one byte identifying the Item, a word count indicating the number of bytes of data of the Item, one or more Element data blocks, and an Item header, preceding the element data block, indicating the number of element data blocks in the Item,

read the SDTI content package file into the storage buffer,

detect the Label of each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item,

remove the detected Label of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item, and insert, for each of the System Item and the one or more of the Picture Item, the Audio Item and the Auxiliary Item, a start code and Item type word in place of the Label, and an end code, to thereby produce an SDTI signal, and the System Item including metadata relating to the one or more of the Picture, Audio and Auxiliary Items in the content package

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The format converter according to claim 28, further comprising:

a multiplexer having first second and third inputs and an output, a first store for storing the start code coupled to the first input, the storage buffer coupled to the second input, a second store for storing the end code and coupled to the third input,

wherein the controller is configured to,

read the start code out of the first store for supply to the first input,

read the Item type word, the word count and the data out of the storage buffer for supply to the second input, and

read the end code out of the second store for supply to the third input, to thereby produce the SDTI signal.